# **LINK**

# **Quarterly Activity Report** October-December 2009



#### **Division of Information & Research**



## **Imaging Branch**

Total Sheets Scanned: 420,043

Equates to:

Total Documents Scanned: 48,865

#### <u>Micrographics</u>

Microfilm Requests: 11

Total Sheets Printed from microfilm: **30,389** 

#### **Open Records Section**

Written Requests: 2,788 Walk-In Requests: 0 Social Security: 146 Pre-Employment: 3,303

Fish & Wildlife: 6

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# **Division of Information & Research continued**

#### **Records Branch**

#### **EDI Section**

Manually Added First Reports:

Claims: **276**Agreements: **87** 

Medical Fee Disputes: **0** Motions to reopen: **10** 

EDI Received: 7,460

#### **Research Section**

Mail Received: **460**Web Calls/Emails: **268** 

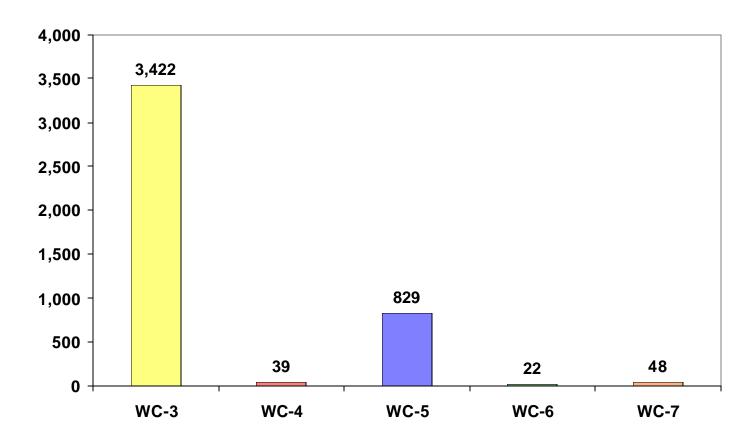
#### **Data Entry Section**

Mail Received: 23,638

Orders: **6,490** 

Opinion/Awards: 460 Docket Orders: 1,015

#### Statute of Limitation Letters Mailed



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# **Administrative Law Judges**

# Office of General Counsel

Benefit Review Conferences: 1,130
Formal Hearings: 504
Opinions: 430
Remands: 19

The Office of General Counsel received:

235 Enforcement Citation cases

17 UCP cases

2 Fraud cases

Enforcement fines

and penalties collected: \$350,861.57

Show Cause fines

and penalties collected: \$28,750.00

**Appeals Section** 

Appeals to the Board: 75

Final dispositions by Board: 14

Opinions rendered by board members:

Stivers 23
Gardner 17
Cowden 22
Total: 62

Appeals to Court of Appeals: 20
Records sent to court: 29
Court orders final disposition: 0
Court of Appeals opinions: 15

Appeals to Supreme Court: 9
Court orders final disposition: 1
Supreme Court opinions: 12



# **QUARTERLY ACTIVITY**

<b>Lost Time First Reports of Injury</b>	6,811	Dismissals	169
Claims Assigned	1,362	Re-openings (medical)	243
Pre-litigated Agreements	979	Re-openings (overruled)	17
Awards	177	Re-openings (sustained)	36
Agreements	780	Re-openings (motion docket)	251

# Distribution by Body Part (Top Ten)

# **Claims**

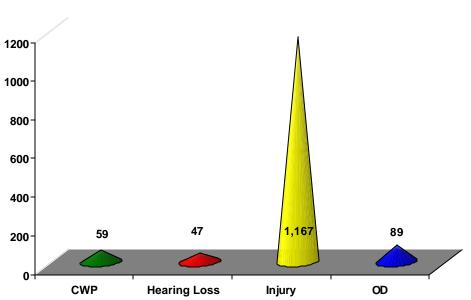
Low Back	281
Multiple Body Parts	254
Shoulder	124
Knee	86
Wrist	52
Lungs	59
Disc	50
Ears	49
Multiple	
Upper Extremities	30
Ankle	30



# **FROIs**

Lower Back	1,034
Multiple Body Parts	676
Knee	621
Shoulder	583
Fingers	411
Hand	315
Ankle	293
Wrist	243
Foot	232
Lower Arm	186

#### **Distribution of Claims by Type**



Top 10 Causes of Injury Claims

Fall or Slip	302
Lifting	220
Motor Vehicle	126
Strain or Injured By	123
Pushing/Pulling	85
Repetitive Motion	72
Falling or Flying Object	58
Absorption, Ingestion	
or Inhalation	53
Continual Noise	46
Other Injury (NOC)	35

Claims figures are based on date of filing.

# **Distribution of Claims by Industry**

Ciaims	FIRST
	Reports
22	196
241	317
148	484
246	1,123
106	563
51	297
146	976
24	152
309	2,239
54	435
15	29
	22 241 148 246 106 51 146 24 309 54

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# **Division of Claims Processing**

#### Claims/Review Assignment

# Agreements

New claims:	1,136
New claims to the judges:	960
Motion docket cases:	227

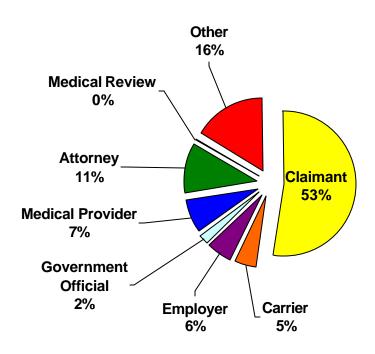
First report agreements: 1,061
Total Agreements
Approved by ALJ's 1,828
Requests for widow's benefits: 31

Total files returned for Quarter: 955 Number of cases purged: 885

# Division of Ombudsmen and Workers' Compensation Specialists Services

MediationClaimsIntervention Requests:249Assisted Claims filed:5Intervention Completed Successfully:61Number of other forms assistance:15

#### **Sources of Request of Assistance**



# **Medical Evaluations**

The number of shipments to B-reader's for HB 348 during the October-December 2009 quarter:

1st B-reader: 28
 2nd B-reader: 18
 3rd B-reader: 20
 Total: 66

University of Kentucky	Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09
All other OD	0	0	3
Hearing Loss 072	19	9	9
Injury & Dermatitis	2	2	4
TOTAL	21	11	16
University of Louisville	Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09
Asbestosis- 061	0	0	1
Respiratory- 065	1	0	0
Chem/metal pos. 066-067	1	0	0
All other OD	0	1	0
Hearing Loss 072	1	0	0
Injury & Dermatitis	6	4	3
TOTAL	9	5	4



# **Division of Security & Compliance**

## **Self-Insurance Branch**

The Self-Insurance Branch reviews the financial strength of individual self-insured employers and determines the surety requirements necessary to cover their outstanding workers' compensation liabilities. Self-Insurance auditors utilize independent resources such as business periodicals, regional and national newspapers and internet business sites to monitor the financial condition of self-insurers. Currently, there are 142 self-insured companies in the state of Kentucky.

#### **Enforcement Branch**

	<u>October</u>	November	December	<u>Totals</u>
Investigations:	918	813	753	2,484
Citations Issued:	99	76	89	264
Penalties Collected:	\$111,405.06	\$132,599.45	\$119,737.06	\$363,741.57
Form 4's Processed:	392	317	264	973

#### **Coverage Branch**

Transactions processed: 109,375

Acceptance Rate: 87%



## **Technical Support and Design and Development Section**

The Technical Support and Design and Development Section respond to all technical, networking and programming needs for the Department of Workers' Claims. The Technical Services Section responded to 575 requests and 168 helpdesk issues were completed.

Technical staff completed the following: closed the Richmond ALJ office; started Owensboro site preparations for new ALJ and Board Chairman; conducted meetings with Blackbox to coordinate phone system upgrades; implemented direct dial numbers for main office personnel; and worked with the Social Security Administration and COT on a data sharing agreement and technical aspects of the data sharing. Staff also tested and distributed digital recorders to several ALJs and assisted other sections with creating copies of the Workers' Compensation Guide Book and Drug Free Workplace CDs.



#### Design and Development's Major Projects Completed and/or Activity

The Design and Development Section maintained and supported the SIMBA, EDI and POC programs. The staff addressed users on specific issues when requested. They also logged and tracked issues in the Test Track System when issues were reported. Design and Development staff completed 94 Test Track issues and received 95 new issues for this quarter. Staff also installed the following EDI builds: 1.8.0 and 1.8.1 and the following SIMBA builds: 2.4.2 and 2.5.0. A Form Letter Patch and a Database Patch were installed as well. An On-Line Referral Form was installed on the Internet for constituent filing. Staff continued analyzing and discussing the EDI Release 3.0 project. Staff continues to convert old VB SIMBA screens to .NET. Staff completed database script to switch over to the 2010 new year for claim numbers and citation numbers in SIMBA and EDI. The 992 Table Program was updated with the 2010 Workers' Compensation Benefit Schedule and Present Worth Table and installed on the website. Queries were run for in-house staff when requesting specific data from SIMBA.